

## OH, 'BULLY!'

John Davidson stars as Teddy Roosevelt in MSC OPAS' presentation.

AGGIELIFE, PAGE 3



## MADNESS AT MIDNIGHT

Basketball begins new era with new coaches Watkins, Gillom tonight at Reed Arena.

SPORTS, PAGE 5



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## FRIDAY

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# The Battalion

105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

## Candidate complains about write-in process

BY MEGAN WRIGHT  
The Battalion

On Sep. 30, Brian Kienitz, a freshman chemical engineering major and write-in candidate for Student Senate, went to vote during the freshmen elections. Kienitz claims that on his ballot, there was no space provided for a write-in candidate's name. "I questioned the poll officer as to where I should place my write-in name," Kienitz wrote in a letter sent to Student Body President Laurie Skelton, Student Speaker of the Senate Amy Magee and Election Commissioner Chris Chase.

"I think the main problem with the election was just the fact that some of the poll officials didn't know exactly what to do."

— Brian Kienitz  
Write-in candidate for Student Senate

In response she handed me a piece of paper from the notebook in her hand. She told me to place my name on the paper along with my student ID number. Although the process of writing in a candidate was inconvenient for me, at least I was able to write in a candidate. In conversations with other voters, I became aware of those who were not able to vote for a write-in candidate because the poll official at their

## Arm bands remember hate crime victim

BY AARON MEIER  
The Battalion

Following Thursday's meeting of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transsexual Aggies, members of the organization spent time constructing yellow arm bands to honor the memory of Matthew Shepard. Shepard, a gay University of Wyoming student, died Monday morning after being assaulted, stabbed and tied to a fence in near-freezing weather Oct. 7. The arm bands can be picked up at the Gender Issues Education Services (GIES) office at 211A YMCA. Rick Brenneman said people nationwide are wearing the arm bands to honor the memory of Shepard. A member of GLBTA discovered the initiative through the Internet.

"There is one reason we are wearing the arm bands," Brenneman said, "and that is awareness — simply awareness." Brenneman said the GIES office will continue offering the arm bands next week depending on availability. "There has been a lot of press concerning Matthew's death," Brenneman said, "press both positive and negative. The positive press, as far as anti-hate crime, and the negative comments that are anti-gay." Brenneman said the recent assaults in the Northgate area demonstrate no one is immune to the hate crimes. "There is no reason to believe that [the attacks in Northgate] could happen to a homosexual person," Brenneman said.

station had said there were no sheets for write-in candidates. I learned of the confusion caused by the write-in policy, and in other cases, direct disregard of election regulations."

Kienitz said he felt that because the poll official took away the ability for a voter to cast a vote for a write-in candidate, the ability to be elected was taken away from the candidate. Kienitz said the reason he wrote the letter was in order to make elections better for all who participate.

"I know that it is too late to change the election results, but my goal is that, eventually, the elections are fair for everyone," he said. Chase, a senior history and English major, is responsible for planning and conducting elections and the recruiting and training of poll officials.

"The elections themselves are huge processes which take two days, eight hours each day, at 10 stations around campus," Chase said. "The people on the election commission serve as poll judges at each station. We use volunteers from two different service organizations on campus to serve as the poll officials, which can mean up to 300 people. We give them an agenda and instruct them as to what happens during those voting days and potential situations, such as write-in candidates. With so many people, there is bound to be small problems."

Each poll station is given a number of pre-printed write-in candidate ballots. When those sheets run out, poll officials are instructed to use regular paper and to instruct the voter to include student identification information on each sheet. Chase said if a person was told no ballots were available for write-in candidates, it was an isolated incident with a specific poll official.

SEE ELECTIONS ON PAGE 2.

## Bowen receives Pradhan report

BY AMANDA SMITH  
The Battalion

In a report sent to Texas A&M University President Dr. Ray M. Bowen, a committee said

computer science professor Dhiraj Pradhan formally waived any further right for a hearing to consider the circumstances under which he was placed on administrative leave in August 1997. The report was obtained through a request pursuant to the Texas Open Records Act. The five members of the University Committee on Academic



PRADHAN

Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility proceeded with the originally scheduled hearing on Oct. 6, despite Pradhan's formal request to withdraw from the hearing.

Pradhan was placed on paid administrative leave after a 1997 University audit accused him of misappropriating more than \$100,000 of University funds for his two private businesses.

In August, Pradhan filed a lawsuit against Texas A&M University for alleged discrimination and violation of his First Amendment rights.

Pradhan, a native of India, accepted the highest endowed chair in the computer science department in 1992. Pradhan continued to earn \$182,000 a year while on administrative leave.

Pradhan returned from administrative leave in late August.

Jim Ashlock, executive director of University Relations, said the committee's report to Bowen will not change Pradhan's status at the University.

"Dr. Pradhan will resume his current status on staff at the University," Ashlock said. "There has been no change of plans to change the termination hearing scheduled for June (1999)."

Gaines West, Pradhan's attorney, was not available for comment.

In a separate hearing, Pradhan faces a third-degree felony charge of abuse of official capacity for using more than \$20,000 and less than \$100,000 belonging to the Texas A&M University System for personal benefit.

The case is scheduled to go to trial Dec. 3.

## Petition hits 600 signature mark

BY BETH MILLER  
The Battalion

People of differing opinions gathered at the Munson Avenue-Dominik Drive barricade Thursday morning to support their views with petitions and protest signs.

The recent College Station City Council decision to permanently block Munson Avenue, allowing only emergency vehicles access to the street, has been under debate by College Station residents. A petition to get the situation on an election ballot has begun circulating by residents opposed to the city council decision.

The group circulating the petition organized Thursday's gathering to offer College Station registered voters the opportunity to sign the petition. Several College Hills residents in support of the city council decision assembled at one corner of the intersection holding protest signs with the hopes of persuading voters

to not sign the petition.

Kayla Glover, initiator of the petition, said she had obtained approximately 300 signatures prior to the gathering, and that Thursday's ef-

**"I don't want the traffic through the neighborhood, but I don't want this barricade here."**

— Linda Allbritton  
College Hills resident

orts raised the total to approximately 600. The group must obtain 1,010 valid signatures in order to submit the petition to city officials.

Judy Warren, a College Hills resident who supports the city council decision, said her main concern

is the safety of the children and the families of the neighborhood.

"I started being concerned about traffic because I couldn't get my 10-year-old across the street to her piano lesson," Warren said.

She said she is looking for some type of protective device for the neighborhood and is concerned about the increase in traffic once the conference center and hotel construction projects conclude.

"The reality is big streets are made for traffic; neighborhood streets are made for the people who live in the area," Warren said. "I think the petition is offering an alternative that is disallowing any traffic-calming on this street."

Linda Allbritton, a College Hills resident who signed the petition, said she is in favor of removing the barricade because it is an inconvenience when trying to enter and exit College Hills neighborhood.

SEE MUNSON ON PAGE 4.

## Hispanic Presidents' Council leads unity rally

BY AMANDA SMITH  
The Battalion

A national leader for the Hispanic community said Thursday learning how to respect ourselves is key to respecting other people.

Maria Antonietta Berriozabal, a member of the Texas Advisory committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and a member of the Women's Leadership Conference of the Americas, said cultural differences are part of what fuels the hate crimes seen in the news today.

"In our country our children are seeing people killed because of their color, because of their religion and because of their sexual orientation," Berriozabal said. "We are killing people because they are dif-

ferent than we are."

The Hispanic Presidents' Council invited Berriozabal to the Unity Rally, the final event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month.

Berriozabal said learning about personal culture is important to understanding different cultures.

"When we are proud and respectful of who we are, we are going to be more respectful of other people, of their culture, of their histories and who they are," Berriozabal said. "It's about learning how to respect ourselves and learning who we are. We are not better than anybody else, but we are not any less either."

More than 40 students marched to the Rudder Fountain area from George Bush Drive as



ERIC NEWMAN/THE BATTALION

Yvette Urteaga (right), a senior finance major, leads the Hispanic Presidents' Council unity rally march to Rudder Fountain Thursday afternoon.

part of the Unity March before Berriozabal addressed students, faculty and administrators.

Yvette Urteaga, president of the Hispanic Presidents' Council and a senior finance major, said celebration of Hispanic culture will continue.

"Just because Hispanic Heritage

Month is over, we do not stop celebrating culture," Urteaga said. "Hispanics in Texas will be the majority minority in Texas. Our culture is going to set us apart from the rest and make us a success."

SEE RALLY ON PAGE 4.

## Mammography Day aims to raise awareness

BY ANDREA BROCKMAN  
The Battalion

An estimated 44,000 people in the United States have died from breast cancer so far this year.

According to the American Cancer Society, in its earliest stages breast cancer has no noticeable symptoms. However, a mammogram can detect tumors one to two years before they can be felt.

As a reminder for women to practice breast health awareness, the American College of Radiation is sponsoring National Mammography Day.

Dr. Kumud Tripathy, an oncolo-

gist at the Bryan Cancer Center, said women at high risk for breast cancer should start getting mammograms at 25.

"A woman is at high risk if there is known familial breast cancer," he said.

Tripathy said benefits show all average-risk women ages 50 to 70 should have yearly mammograms.

"For women younger than 50 and older than 70, the benefits of a yearly mammogram have not been proven," he said, "but a common practice is to recommend the first mammogram for every woman between the ages of 35 and 40, so they can observe any

changes through the years."

Tripathy said doctors should make their patients aware of all benefits and disadvantages of the procedure.

"The benefits are obvious," he said. "Cancer can be found at its earliest stage and can be removed with the least amount of disfigurement. However, most abnormalities found in mammograms are not cancer. In younger women false positives are high, and they may go through unnecessary stress, discomfort of surgery, expenses and complications," he said.

SEE MAMMOGRAPHY ON PAGE 4.



BRANDON BOLLOM/THE BATTALION

Brenda Bridges, a breast cancer survivor, said her treatment at the Cancer Center in Bryan saved her life.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Corps of Cadets plans Waco parade

The Corps of Cadets will march through Waco Saturday as a prelude to the Texas A&M-Baylor football game.

The march will begin at 4 p.m. from the corner of Franklin and 26th streets and end at the stadium grounds.

The Aggie Band will lead the parade, and Parson's Mounted Cavalry will ride as the final unit in the march.

The Corps selects two cities each year in which to march that coincide with A&M football games. The second march this year will be in Austin before the Texas A&M-University of Texas football game.

### Influential architect visits Texas A&M

Internationally-recognized architect Philip Johnson will visit the Texas A&M campus today.

Johnson is visiting at the invitation of Texas A&M Board of Regents member John Lindsey, who is bringing the architect to A&M because Johnson is interested in designing a building for the University's campus.

Johnson was influential in the popularization of modern architecture in the United States, especially through his role as director of the department of modern architecture at the Museum of Modern Art from 1930-1934. Many of his designs, including the AT&T Building built in 1984, helped promote Postmodernism architecture.

### Greek tourney to benefit charities

Tomorrow, Sigma Chi fraternity and Zeta Tau Alpha sorority will be hosting their annual SB/Frat Rat Softball Tournament. The tournament will be held at the Bryan Athletic Center and consists of 16 teams representing various organizations in the Greek community. The proceeds from the tournament will go to the Children's Miracle Network and the Susan B. Koman Breast Cancer Research Foundation. An estimated \$1,200 will be raised at this year's tournament.

### Indian Spring Park chosen for yell site

Midnight Yell Practice for the Texas A&M-Baylor University game Saturday will be held Friday at Indian Spring Park in downtown Waco. The park is located at the intersection of University Parks Drive and Franklin Avenue, just west of Interstate 35.

### Texas A&M-Tech game rescheduled

The kickoff time for the Texas A&M-Texas Tech game on Saturday, Oct. 24 has been rescheduled from 1 p.m. to 2:35 p.m. The game will be broadcasted locally on ABC.

### Bush interview set to air tonight

Former President George Bush's interview with Charlie Rose will be aired tonight at midnight on KUHT-TV, Houston's Channel 8.

Bush and Brent Scowcroft, former National Security Advisor, discussed their book, *A World Transformed*, last week at a taping of "The Charlie Rose Show." *A World Transformed* discusses world events that occurred during the Bush administration such as the reunification of Germany, the collapse of the Soviet Union and Tiananmen Square.